



PATENT
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION 09/911,855
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 04558.053001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shoji NAKAMURA *et al.*
Serial No.: 09/911,855
Filed : July 23, 2001
Title : MOLDED GLASS SUBSTRATE FOR MAGNETIC DISK AND METHOD FOR
MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Art Unit : 1772
Examiner : Jane J. Rhee

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.131

In connection with the Applicant's Response to the Office Action issued on December 29, 2003, this declaration sets forth the pertinent facts proving a constructive reduction to practice prior to **December 14, 2000**.

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-220801 has a filing date of July 21, 2000.¹
2. Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-220801 discloses the same subject matter as claimed in claims 1-20 of U.S. Application No. 09/911,855.
3. The inventors of U.S. Application No. 09/911,855 and Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-220801 are the same, namely Shoji Nakamura, Takahisa Kondou, Hidenao Kataoka, and Yoshiyuki Shimizu (hereafter Shoji Nakamura, *et al.*).
4. On July 21, 2000, Shoji Nakamura, *et al.* constructively reduced the invention to practice by filing Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-220801.
5. The earliest § 102 (e) date that U.S. Patent No. 5,539,750, issued to Takagi, *et al.* is entitled to is December 14, 2000.

¹ A translated copy of this Application is enclosed herewith.

We, Shoji Nakamura, *et al*, hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signed this day 18, of March 2004.

Shoji Nakamura

Shoji Nakamura

Signed this day 18, of March 2004.

Takahisa Kondou

Takahisa Kondou

Signed this day 18, of March 2004.

Hidenao Kataoka

Hidenao Kataoka

Signed this day 18, of March 2004.

Yoshiyuki Shimizu

Yoshiyuki Shimizu

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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